



Southeast Fishery Bulletin

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KING MACKEREL TRIP LIMIT REDUCED TO 500 POUNDS PER DAY IN SOUTHERN FLORIDA WEST COAST SUBZONE FOR COMMERCIAL HOOK-AND-LINE VESSELS

The daily vessel trip limit is reduced to 500 pounds beginning 12:01 a.m., February 20, 2001, for commercial hook-and-line vessels fishing for Gulf group king mackerel in the southern Florida west coast subzone. NOAA Fisheries reduced the trip limit after determining that 405,844 pounds or 75 percent of the 541,125-pound quota for this fishery segment had been taken.

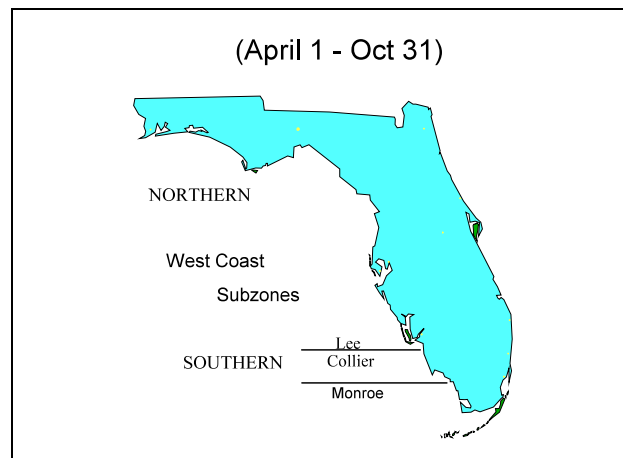
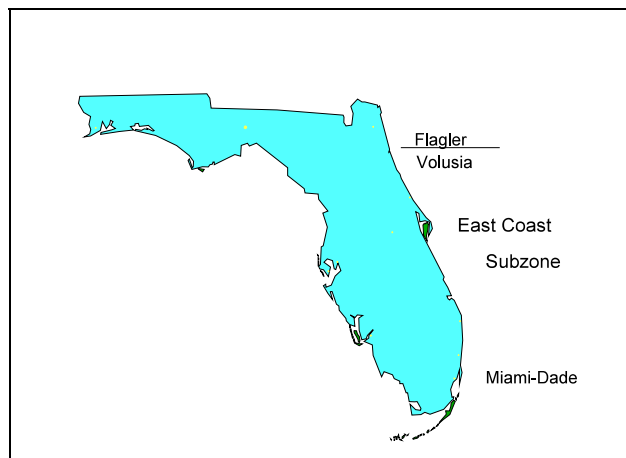
The 500-pound trip limit is a daily landing/possession limit that applies to commercial vessels fishing for king mackerel in the southern Florida west coast subzone. The southern subzone is that part of the Florida west coast subzone which from November 1 through March 31 extends south and west from a line directly east from the Miami-Dade/Monroe County boundary (25° 20.4' N. lat) to a line directly west from the Lee/Collier County boundary (26° 19.8' N. lat), i.e., the Gulf and Atlantic waters off Collier and Monroe counties. From April 1 through October 31, the southern subzone is that part of the Florida west coast subzone which lies between the Lee/Collier County

boundary and a line directly west from the Monroe/Collier County boundary (25° 48' N. lat.), i.e., Gulf waters off Collier County (See figures below).

The 500-pound daily trip limit will remain in effect until the 541,125-pound quota is reached or through the end of the fishing year, June 30, 2001, whichever occurs first. When commercial landings for this fishery segment reach the quota level, the fishery will be closed for the remainder of the 2000/2001 fishing year. The closure will be effective upon filing the notification with the Office of the Federal Register.

A vessel fishing under commercial trip limits and quotas must possess a commercial Federal king mackerel permit. Quotas, trip limits (see reverse side of this bulletin), and permits implemented under the Fishery Management Plan for Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic (FMP) are necessary to protect and rebuild the overfished Gulf group king mackerel resource.

GULF GROUP KING MACKEREL: FLORIDA SUBZONES AND SEASONAL BOUNDARIES



GULF GROUP KING MACKEREL: STATUS OF QUOTAS AND DAILY TRIP/LANDING LIMITS FOR COMMERCIAL FISHERIES FOR THE 2000/2001 FISHING YEAR

ZONE/SUBZONE	QUOTA (POUNDS, lb)	DAILY VESSEL TRIP LIMITS	DURATION OF TRIP LIMITS			STATUS	
						BEGINNING	CURRENT
EASTERN ZONE (Florida)	2,340,000						
East Coast Subzone ¹	1,082,250	50 Fish	11/01/20	until 1,082,250 lb		Opened: 11/01/2000	Open: 50 Fish/day
West Coast Subzones	1,257,750						
<u>Northern</u>							
Hook and Line	175,500	1,250 lb 500 lb 0 lb	07/01/00 11/12/00 11/19/00	until 131,625 lb until 175,500 lb until 07/01/01		Opened: 07/01/2000 Opens: 07/01/2001	Closed: 11/19/00
<u>Southern</u>							
Hook and Line	541,125	1,250 lb 500 lb	07/01/00 02/20/01	until 405,844 lb until 541,125 lb		Opened: 07/01/2000	Open: 500 lb/day
Gillnet	541,125	25,000 lb 0 lb	01/16/01 11/19/00	until 541,125 lb until 01/22/02		Opened: 01/16/2001	Closed: 01/19/01² Opens: 01/22/2002
WESTERN ZONE (Texas - Alabama)	1,050,000	3,000 lb 0 lb	07/01/00 08/26/00	until 1,050,000 lb until 07/01/01		Opened: 07/01/2000 Opens: 07/01/2001	Closed: 08/26/00
Hook and Line							

¹ The Florida east coast subzone, located between the Flagler/Volusia and Miami-Dade/Monroe County boundaries, exists only from November 1 through March 31, when the Gulf migratory group of king mackerel extends into that area. From April 1 through October 31, king mackerel landed in that area belong to the Atlantic migratory group.

² Gillnet fishery is closed through 6:00 a.m., January 22, 2002.

To report violations of commercial trip limits or closures, contact our Office of Law Enforcement at 727/570-5344 or 1-800/853-1964. NOAA Fisheries, or the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an agency of the Commerce Department's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Additional information on southeastern fisheries is available from the Fishery Management Councils. The web site and e-mail addresses for the Gulf of Mexico Council are <http://www.gulfcouncil.org> and gulfcouncil@gulfcouncil.org, and those for the South Atlantic Council are <http://www.safmc.nmfs.gov> and safmc@noaa.gov, respectively.